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FOR UNDER SECRETARY SISCO

FOLLOWING REPEAT TEL AVIV 6824 ACTION SECSTATE INFO AMMAN
CAIRO DAMASCUS OCT 29.

QUOTE: UNCLAS TEL AVIV 6824

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TAGS: PFOR, IS, EG, US

SUBJECT: ISRAELI PRESS ON SADAT'S U.S. VISIT

1. SUMMARY: PRESS DEVOTES EXTENSIVE FRONTPAGE COVERAGE
TO DESCRIPTION OF SADAT'S VIISIT, HIGHLIGHTING QUOTE GRAND
RECEPTION UNQUOTE GIVEN TO EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT IN
WASHINGTON. EDITORIALS AND COMMENTARIES ARE HIGHLY
CRITICAL OF SADAT'S ANTI-ZIONIST REMARKS. JOURNALISTS
BELIEVE VISIT WILL NOT AFFECT IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERIM
AGREEMENT, BUT QUESTION VALUE OF FUTURE AGREEMENTS WITH
EGYPT. SOME COMMENTATORS EXPRESS VIEW THAT SADAT'S
REMARKS SERVE ISRAEL'S INTERESTS BECAUSE THEY REVEAL THE
QUALITY OF QUOTE ARAB MODERATION. UNQUOTE. END SUMMARY.

2. HAARETZ (GOLN) WRITES THAT QUOTE POLITICAL CIRCLES
IN JERUSALEM EXPRESSED CONCERN AND ANGER OVER SADAT'S
REMARKS...SENIOR OBSERVERS ARE SURPRISED OVER TIMING AND
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PLACE CHOSEN BY SADAT FOR VOICING HIS VIEWS...IT IS PRESUMED

THAT SADAT DECIDED TO RISK THE (POSITIVE) IMPRESSION OF THE TRIP...TO PAY LIP SERVICE TO THE PLO AND THOSE ARAB COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE BEEN CRITICIZING HIM RECENTLY... POLITICAL CIRCLES SAID THAT SADAT'S REMARKS DO NOT JUSTIFY BREACH OF THE SINAI AGREEMENT OR A DELAY IN ITS IMPLEMENTATION...EGYPTIAN DEEDS...AND NOT SADAT'S REMARKS ARE THE BASIS OF ABIDING BY THE AGREEMENT... THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT SADAT'S REMARKS WILL NOT CONTRIBUTE TO ISRAELI READINESS FOR ADDITIONAL AGREEMENTS IN THE AREA... GOVERNMENT CIRCLES IN JERUSALEM VOICED THE OPINION THAT IF THESE ARE THE STATEMENTS MADE ON THE ROAD TO PEACE, THEN IT IS NECESSARY TO WAIT FOR A CONSIDERABLE PERIOD IN ORDER TO EXAMINE THE REAL INTENTIONS OF THE ARAB STATES... UNQUOTE.

3. HAARETZ FRONTPAGE CARRIES EXCERPTS FROM RABIN'S FRENCH TV INTERVIEW IN WHICH HE SAID THAT SADAT'S VISIT DID NOT WORRY HIM AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT QUOTE PROBLEMS RELATED TO ARMS SUPPLIES WILL NOT BE DISCUSSED...UNQUOTE.

4. YEDYOT (GUINEY) COMMENTS: QUOTE...JUST AS SADAT REJECTS ZIONISM...SO HE DENIES THE JEWS THE RIGHT (TO A STATE)...THEREFORE, NO AGREEMENT WHICH WILL BE CONCLUDED WITH HIM WILL BRING PEACE TO THE REGION...THIS FACT...WILL NOT OBSTRUCT THE CONCLUSION OF ADDITIONAL AGREEMENTS OR MAINTAINING SIGNED ONES...THERE IS NO NEED TO EXAGGERATE IN DRAMATIZING THE SITUATION AFTER SADAT'S REMARKS...WHICH REVEALED THE QUALITY OF ARAB MODERATION...THIS MIGHT FACILITATE ISRAEL'S HAND IN PREVENTING U.S. ADMINISTRATION FROM GOING TOO FAR IN PROMISING MILITARY AID TO EGYPT...AS LONG AS IT DOES NOT CHANGE ITS BASIC POSITIONS TOWARD ISRAEL AND PEACE IN THE REGION. UNQUOTE.

5. DAVAR EDITORIAL WRITES: QUOTE...IT SHOULD BE CLEAR TO ISRAEL THAT SADAT'S SLUR ON JUDAISM AND ZIONISM... WILL NOT AFFECT THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION'S EFFORTS TO USE HIS TRIP TO STRENGTHEN U.S. RELATIONS WITH EGYPT...THE STRATEGIC ACHIEVEMENT INHERENT IN ELBOWING SOVIETS OUT OF EGYPT...THE IDEA OF THE NEW CAIRO-RIYADH-TEHERAN AXIS... UNCLASSIFIED

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THE INTERESTS OF U.S. OIL COMPANIES AND FEAR OF REVIVED OIL EMBARGO...DO NOT LEAVE ROOM FOR EXCITEMENT OVER SADAT'S HARSH TONE...UNDOUBTEDLY THE U.S. WILL NOT SPARE EFFORTS TO SOOTHE ISRAEL AS REGARDS SADAT'S REAL INTENTIONS... UNQUOTE.

6. HAARETZ (MARGALIT IN US) REPORTS THAT: QUOTE...THE UNPRECEDENTED RECEPTION PREPARED BY THE ADMINISTRATION

FOR SADAT IS AIMED AT HELPING EGYPT IN ITS EFFORTS TO
CAPTURE U.S. PUBLIC OPINION AND CONGRESS...THE U.S.
PRIASE IS NOT DEVOID OF POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE...
BUT IT IS NOT MADE AT ITS EXPENSE. PURPOSEFUL TALKS ON
THE FUTURE OF THE WEST BANK WERE HELD...PRESIDENT FORD
HAS STARTED TO TALK ABOUT THE QUOTE LEGITIMATE INTERESTS
UNQUOTE OF ALL NATIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST...IN THE U.S.
LEXICON...QUOTE LEGITIMATE INTERESTS UNQUOTE RELATE TO
PALESTINIANS ONLY...SADAT HIMSELF IS TALKING A GREAT DEAL
ABOUT THE PALESTINIANS...AND HAS MENTIONED THE PLO ONLY
ONCE...THE U.S. PRIASE IS NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR PRACTICAL
AGREEMENTS...THEY ARE WITHIN THE REALM OF A SOFTENING
CAMPAIGN...UNQUOTE.

7. YEDIOT (ZIMUKY) WRITES: QUOTE...U.S. COMMITMENTS FOR
SOPHISTICATED ARMS SUPPLIES TO EGYPT OR NUCLEAR REACTION
FOR DESALINATION OF SEA WATER ARE NOT EXPECTED DURING
SADAT'S VISIT IN WASHINGTON...ON THE OTHER HAND DEALS
FOR PURCHASING SOPHISTICATED ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT
AND VARIOUS VEHICLES WILL BE CONCLUDED...UNQUOTE.
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